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AFGHANISTAN

FACT SHEET

Nangarhar Province

OVERVIEW

USAID estimated support for Nangarhar from January 2002 - December 2010: \$308.1 million

Estimated population: 1,334,000 (Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan Central Statistics Office: Estimated Population of Afghanistan 2008-2009)

Capital: Jalalabad

Note: U.S.-led PRT



Located in eastern Afghanistan, densely populated Nangarhar is rich in natural resources, including high-quality marble, an abundance of forests, and substantial water resources. Nangarhar was a center of opium production until 2005, when the Afghan government launched a major eradication initiative. The province now provides significant amounts of grains, fruits, and vegetables throughout the country. Nangarhar has a majority Pashtun population and a nomadic Kuchi minority. Jalalabad, the capital city, has several functioning educational institutions and receives some electricity from the nearby Darunta Dam.

AGRICULTURE

Goal: Increase agricultural sector jobs and income through a) increased agricultural productivity by increasing farmer access to inputs and effective extension services; b) invigorated agribusiness by increasing linkages between farmers, markets, credit, and trade corridors; and c) rehabilitated watersheds and improved irrigation infrastructure. Also, increase Afghans' confidence in their government by increased Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation, and Livestock's (MAIL) capacity to deliver services and promote the private sector and farmer associations through direct budget and technical assistance.

Summary: USAID focuses on enabling farmers to transition from subsistence to market-oriented farming through the provision of seeds and fertilizers, livestock development, improvement of irrigation and market infrastructure, and training.

Current Activities:

- Provide accessible and affordable seeds and fertilizer to promote the production of wheat and other staple food crops, as well as to reduce dependence on poppy
- Improve production of quality high-value produce, train farmers and extension workers, and strengthen MAIL's national extension and research program
- Create full-time equivalent jobs with new land cultivated
- Install farm turnouts to develop an efficient and equitable community-based irrigation water resource distribution and management system which will lead to improved agricultural productivity
- Provide agriculture information via e-mail, the internet, and cell phones for five regional markets, using daily reports through market intelligence systems for thousands of subscribers and text messages to people requesting price information
- Produce and broadcast radio programs that provide an accessible and interactive forum for farmers to learn about modern management techniques for a variety of agriculture and livestock products



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- Strengthen commercial agriculture opportunities for women through the continued support of a women-owned fish farm and four women-owned dairy cooperatives that produce and sell Spinghar Paneer, a brand of cheese developed with USAID support
- Establish small-scale layer poultry farms and small-scale vegetable gardening plots to enhance women's role and participation in the agricultural sector
- Rehabilitate more than 100 km of irrigation, and repair 10 km of roads, which is expected to generate 20,150 full-time equivalent jobs, impact 5,100 ha of crops, and benefit more than 40,000 families
- Develop the poultry value-chain through creation of jobs for breeder farms, hatcheries, commercial poultry farms, and small, women-owned layer farms
- Leverage private investment of upwards of \$500,000 in local poultry value chains
- Provide agriculture education opportunities for students and faculty members of Nangarhar University by developing curriculum through strengthening the capacity of the faculty members, providing farm research activities, and demonstration plots for students and faculty
- Conduct capacity-building activities on efficient and equitable use of water for irrigation, such as demonstrations on different types of irrigation systems and measuring water available for irrigation, complemented by classroom and on-farm training on improved agriculture technologies for MAIL and Ministry of Energy and Water staff, students, and faculty members of Nangarhar University, and members of the *mirab* (collective water-management system)

Accomplishments:

- Supported agriculture and agribusiness initiatives, incorporated more than 50,300 hectares into licit agricultural production, and generated approximately 11,500 full-time jobs directly affecting 66 percent of the households
- Constructed or rehabilitated 154 canals, 108 flood protection walls, 10 reservoirs, and two drainage systems to provide improved access to irrigation for 121,700 hectares of land
- Provided improved vegetable seeds, fertilizer, and technical assistance to approximately 156,000 farmers to increase productivity, improve farm-gate quality, and build market networks
- Helped establish 140 women-owned businesses, including bakeries, beauty parlors, apparel shops, oil and flour selling enterprises, and small shops through a business mentorship program
- Hosted three Agriculture Trade Fairs (AgFairs) for 30,000 participants, bringing buyers and sellers together to increase sales of Afghan agricultural products and services
- Renovated the Jalalabad wholesale market, where 160 fruit and vegetable wholesalers trade approximately \$30 million of fresh produce annually, resulting in a 30 percent increase in market traffic, increased sales for local farmers and traders, and substantial improvements in hygiene
- Established the Sukhrod Vegetable Packing Facility, operated by a group of women trained in quality control and food safety, that provides grading, packing, and refrigeration services for traders supplying high-end buyers in Dubai, India, Kuwait, and Kabul, while giving women skills to participate in the region's economy
- Supported the development of the poultry sector, which has expanded significantly
- Installed 41 farm turnouts (concrete cement frames with leak-proof lids which enable farmers to control the flow of water to their fields) that save time, labor, and water losses and thus improve the irrigation water supply to farms
- Trained approximately 200 staff members of the Afghan government, universities, and vocational schools in irrigation and agricultural production technologies
- Distributed more than \$1.1 million in wages on 29 cash-for-work projects



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- Supported more than 8,200 farmers through voucher programs (receiving agricultural inputs at a 50 percent cost) and field training days at demonstration farms throughout Nangarhar Province
- Supported the growth of 100 ha of wheat for seed replication for sale to farmers in the next wheat season, making a high yielding, local variety of wheat seed readily available for the province

DEMOCRACY & GOVERNANCE

Goal: Build the capacity of government institutions to improve the quality and quantity of government services to Afghan citizens. Support independent media institutions and advocacy groups.

Summary: USAID builds the capacity of government institutions to improve the quality and quantity of government services to citizens in Nangarhar Province through activities including supporting the justice sector, media, civil society, and governance development.

Current Activities:

- Support two radio stations established by USAID
- Train provincial and district-level civil servants in the five common functions highlighted in the Afghanistan National Development Strategy: financial management, human resources management, procurement, project management, and strategy and policy development
- Embed technical advisors in provincial line departments, who provide on-the-job training to civil servants to increase service delivery
- Support the Radio Spin Ghar station in Ghani Khel, Radio Nargis station in Jalalabad city, and Radio Sharq station in Jalalabad city, Nangarhar with program funding and technical support as part of a national network of local radio stations that broadcast independent national satellite programming from Salam Watandar
- Support a regional media training center through Nai in Jalalabad
- Support Afghanistan Women's Education Center as an intermediate civil society support organization, which will organize community dialogues, run resource centers, monitor grantees, and provide capacity building to target civil-society organizations
- Provide capacity building, training, and small grants to eight Afghan civil-society organizations showing potential to be sustainable, effective organizations in the province
- Train Provincial Council members on the council's legal rights, monitoring, and oversight, and getting them to communicate with the constituents and represent them with government entities
- Provide \$25,000/month through the Performance Based Governors Fund for governors to cover operational expenditures and perform community outreach projects
- Assisted committees and concerned members of Parliament in understanding the provincial budgeting process

Accomplishments:

- Supported the development of the justice sector through the publication and distribution of judicial reference laws
- Developed and trained judges and court administrators in the Afghanistan court administration system
- Delivered core skills and ethics training to provide judges with the tools necessary to officiate over the courts
- Supported the 2010 voter registration update exercise; assisted domestic and international observation missions, trained political parties and candidate poll agents, conducted a series of poll surveys ahead of



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the 2010 election, and provided civic education and media outreach activities for broad-based participation to promote a democratically-elected government

- Supported the Aftab Social, Cultural and Development Association for an advocacy and capacity building project
- Supported the Saba Media Organization for an Education/Literacy project in Bamyan, Ghazni, Hirat, Kabul, Kapisa, Nangarhar, Parwan under the Ambassador's Small Grants Program to Support Gender Equality (ASGP)
- Supported the Enjeel Association of United Sisters for a citizen's platform for gender equality project
- Promoted legal and human rights awareness, including women's rights, through public education campaigns in a variety of media, and provided institutional, capacity-building training to civil-society organizations
- Provided training and support to provincial councils, which improved professionalism, knowledge, and skills, resulting in more effective and transparent leadership
- Facilitated consensus-building efforts through civic-education training and dialogue sessions with mullahs and sharia scholars
- Supported voter registration, assisted domestic and international observation missions, trained political parties and independent poll agents, conducted a series of poll surveys, and supported the 2009 presidential and provincial council elections
- Built two district administration buildings, renovated two additional district administrative buildings, and improved district courts to provide officials with modern well-equipped facilities to administer justice
- Strengthened Jalalabad municipality through training and technical assistance by embedded technical advisors, youth support, and implementing municipal small-scale infrastructure projects

ECONOMIC GROWTH

Goal: Promote a thriving, licit economy led by the private sector.

Summary: USAID promotes a licit economy in Nangarhar Province through expanding access to telecommunications and modern banking services, educating the public on how fiscal and monetary policy effects economic growth, and modernizing the customs system. USAID also promotes economic development in Nangarhar through capacity building of business support organizations and the Nangarhar Economy Directorate, strengthening public financial management capacity of the provincial government, and promoting economic growth through relevant conferences and workshops.

Current Activities:

- Continue operational support to Afghanistan Central Business Registry (ACBR) to refine service delivery, including conducting an information campaign for ACBR, streamlining procedures, and achieving greater harmonization between other bodies providing business services (eg. licensing and Tax Identification Number offices)
- Establish a Ministry of Finance-staffed provincial budgeting regional training hub in Jalalabad to initiate rollout of a capacity-training program for provincial government in provincial budgeting
- Support the new Ministry of Commerce and Industries Eastern Region office to develop and implement operational procedures and systems for administration of business enabling environment activities
- Build the capacity of the Nangarhar Economy Directorate to lead as secretariat of the Private Sector Development Committee, and support the committee to develop a private sector development strategy for the province to address constraints to the business enabling environment and private-sector growth



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- Assist the Da Afghanistan Bank (DAB) eastern region office to facilitate periodic roundtable meetings with local private bank managers to discuss private banking issues, future banking expansion plans, and other improvements to increase access to private banking services to the local community
- Support the DAB to execute the Survey of Regional Economic Activity and in data and information collection from west region provinces in support of research and analytical function
- Help the DAB organize and conduct quarterly financial sector consultation forums focused on issue identification and resolution of financial-sector operations, economic development and growth, and provincial action
- Promote improved cash management operations with regard to availability and quality of bank notes in circulation
- Support business association development through grants and technical assistance
- Administer sector-specific grants to foster growth in key industries including recycling, marble production, food processing, and carpet weaving
- Support the One Laptop Per Child project
- Support a community-owned and managed Islamic Investment and Finance Cooperative, which provides financial services to members

Accomplishments:

- Assisted 84 associations and created 20 with more than \$360,000 in grants (approximately 25,000 entrepreneurs from sectors such as honey, poultry, food processing, marble, and carpet production now receive better member services from their associations)
- Assisted the Nangarhar Chamber of Commerce and Industries to implement a small grant to conduct quarterly business surveys and the Nangarhar Economy Directorate to create a quarterly economic growth magazine
- Conducted a banking survey to determine basic banking habits of the public, including the extent that bank accounts are used, whether banks were used for changing money, and to gauge the interest in obtaining bank loans to start new businesses or purchase homes
- Conducted an assessment of Nangarhar treasury current budget execution processes to identify opportunities to streamline operations for more efficient budget execution and controls
- Conducted outreach to journalists, university students and professors, government officials, and business representatives on the benefits and requirements of the Afghanistan/Pakistan Transit Trade Agreement as well as its potential impact on the local and national economies
- Co-sponsored the two-day Economic Growth and Investment Promotion Conference attended by more than 500 representatives of economic-sector national ministries, provincial government, universities, local and national business leaders and associations, international donors, and finance agencies
- Disbursed more than \$2.7 million in *sharia*-compliant loans
- Educated businesspeople, government officials, and women entrepreneurs on the South Asia Free Trade Agreement, other pending trade agreements, and updated commercial laws to enable Afghanistan's business community to operate more effectively under international trade regulations
- Established the Afghanistan Central Business Registry Nangarhar Office, which has processed more than 2,000 applications since inception
- Established two Islamic Investment and Finance Cooperatives with 4,969 members (11 percent women)
- Expanded market information for investors through market assessments of sectors such as dairy, candy, cakes, and baked goods



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- Facilitated and launched the Afghan government effort to connect provincial government offices in Nangarhar with Kabul through broadband technology (Government Communications Network) that facilitates active transparent governance by linking national and local-level decision makers
- Held a Global Development Alliance conference to identify opportunities where entrepreneurs, Afghan financial institutions, and the public sector could work together to improve the business climate in Afghanistan
- Implemented an automated Core Banking System, provided additional communications technology and training for bank staff, and expanded and refurbished two provincial branches of DAB that operate as the paying agent for the government and disburses all social, payroll, and procurement payments (services such as these increase the effectiveness and efficiency of the social and economic infrastructure of Afghanistan, contributing to the development of the public and private sectors)
- Installed 19 district communications network centers, operated by Afghan Telecom, that provide telephones, Internet, and photocopying services to both the district government officials and the public
- Installed revenue collection automation at the Nangarhar Mustofiat enabling the revenue department to generate reports automatically
- Installed the Revenue Reconciliation and Accounting database in the Nangarhar Mustofiat, which has dramatically reduced processing times of Afghan government revenue receipts, production on revenue reports, and uploading into the consolidated Ministry of Finance Financial Management System
- Leveraged available international donor funds to secure two small grants totaling \$25,000 for the Nangarhar Chamber of Commerce and Industries to conduct quarterly business surveys and the Nangarhar Economy Directorate to produce a quarterly economic growth magazine
- Prepared a baseline assessment of Nangarhar Treasury Department (of Nangarhar Mustofiat) current processes, procedures, and systems for budget execution to identify areas for strengthening this key function, leading to more timely and effective spending performance
- Produced the first comprehensive Nangarhar Province investment and economic profile in partnership with the Nangarhar Chamber of Commerce and Industries, Afghanistan Investment Support Agency, and Nangarhar Economy Directorate
- Promoted economic expansion and private-sector development through lending to a variety of businesses in the micro, small, and medium-enterprise sector and disbursed more than \$16.7 million in loans through USAID-funded financial institutions
- Provided 396 computers to local schools and equipped each with localized enterprise development software
- Provided marketplace development grants to improve bazaars in 14 districts
- Provided training for customs staff on exemptions, valuation, tariffs, certificates of origin, smuggling, penalties, and preparation of trade statistics to build a professional, modern customs authority, and provided advanced cargo scanners to improve border security in Torkham
- Provided training for more than 1,800 entrepreneurs on computer skills, association development management, beekeeping, and fish production to build private-sector capacity
- Reorganized land titling documentation at the Makhzan court register with new cost-efficient technology enabling Afghans to easily access their property documents (before the reorganization, the land administration office was unable to properly document land transfers, provide proof of ownership documents, or prevent the registration of fraudulent deeds)
- Supported 2,235 small and medium enterprises through trade fairs, association grants, value chain development grants, sector-specific training, and business skills training



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- Supported DAB in establishing the zone economist function, to include execution of the Survey of Regional Economist Activity and providing guidance on building a robust information and data collection operation covering economic trends and conditions
- Supported the Bachelors of Business Administration program at Nangarhar University to build the professional skills of Nangarhar's future business and government leaders
- Supported the Nangarhar Chamber of Commerce and Industries to conduct a strategic planning workshop with its key business and government stakeholders to identify priority future business support activities for the eastern region
- Trained more than 63 provincial government officials in effective planning and budget estimate preparation to increase provincial participation in the national budget process by developing inputs that better reflect local needs and priorities
- Trained and provided work opportunities for 458 university students through a capacity-building internship program
- Trained radio, television, and print journalists on the value of trade and trade issues in order to encourage more and better coverage of trade-related issues

EDUCATION

Goal: Improve the quality of basic education through improved teacher quality and increased availability of primary school textbooks; support community-based education; improve the quality of higher education; improve the livelihoods of urban and rural communities through increased literacy and employability instruction.

Summary: USAID supports educational improvements in Nangarhar Province through four national education programs. USAID has provided in-service teacher training (INSET), developed in-school teacher support activities (ITSA), provided radio-based teacher support programs, provided support to local communities through capacity strengthening in partnerships with non-government organizations and Ministry of Education personnel, provided literacy and vocational schools training, printed textbooks, trained education faculty professors, and constructed and/or refurbished schools.

Current Activities:

- Offer an 18-month course in reading, writing, math, and critical-thinking skills to more than 7,000 youth and adults in 106 communities
- Provide INSET 2 training for teachers
- Develop Accelerated Learning materials and train trainers
- Conduct school management training 2
- Implement INSET 3 focused on literacy and numeracy for primary teachers
- Provide face-to-face teaching and radio-based teacher support programs for 8,400 teachers to improve teachers' skills and performance in the classroom
- Train community leaders and village teachers in community mobilization program management and functional literacy skills
- Support 43 community-based classes, 134 adult literacy, and four early childhood classes in four districts to expand access and quality of education in areas where there are no formal schools
- Support 60 emergency community-based school classes to expand access and quality of education to internally displaced populations/refugees
- Improve university students' computer skills and promote the use of the Internet through the Afghan Next Generation e-Learning (ANGeL) Center for Teaching and Learning at Nangarhar University



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- Work with the faculty of education to improve the teaching skills of professors through training in pedagogy, subject knowledge, computer literacy, English, institutional development, leadership, management, administration, professional attitudes, and teacher standards
- Continue sponsoring education opportunities for professors in Afghanistan and abroad
- Continue textbook support
- Construct a dormitory for the Teacher Training College
- Pilot an integrated youth workforce development program featuring accelerated learning – primary school equivalency, life skills, and workforce training
- Develop partnerships with local businesses and industry to provide select youth with apprenticeships and on-the-job training

Accomplishments:

- Empowered youth through civic education for reconstruction, building democracy, and development
- Established 282 literacy centers
- Trained approximately 16,650 teachers and 660 trainers in INSET training
- Established more than 436 teacher learning circles in 367 schools
- Developed school improvement plans in 351 schools
- Established 302 school management committees
- Completed approximately 22,000 teacher observations during the project life
- Printed more than approximately six million textbooks
- Established 145 school manager practicum groups for 3,460 school principals
- Constructed 22 schools
- Established a professional development center at the university
- Introduced a teacher standards program and a standards working committee for assessment and validation at the university

HEALTH

Goal: Improve access to and quality of health service delivery and increase the abilities of individuals, families, and communities to protect their health.

Summary: USAID's principal health investments in Nangarhar Province come through nationwide programs, including support for health and family-planning products, pre-service training for community midwives from Nuristan and a provision of refresher training courses for nurses and physicians.

Current Activities:

- Support social marketing of health and family-planning products (such as contraceptives, water purification agents, and oral rehydration salts for diarrhea) through 684 private-sector outlets
- Fund the Diseases Early Warning System for 14 routine conditions/diseases in 11 sentinel sites
- Implement a pediatric hospital improvement initiative in Jalalabad Provincial Hospital to improve children's health at the hospital level
- Support the Provincial Public Health Office and the Provincial Public Health Coordination Committee to strengthen the technical, leadership, and management capacity of the provincial health team to support the delivery of the Basic Package of Health Services (BPHS) and the Essential Package of Hospital Services (EPHS)
- Establish a provincial quality assurance committee to ensure skilled health-care providers



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- Provide technical support for a clinical site to strengthen newborn care training
- Fund a community-based midwifery education program for students from Nuristan to reduce infant and maternal mortality
- Train community health worker trainers and community health supervisors, and orient new non-government organization staff to expand the use of postpartum family planning
- Help the Ministry of Public Health Mental Health Department to identify and select regional trainers for mental health
- Conduct training for non-government organization trainers and religious leaders and develop a training manual focusing on reproductive health, family planning, and cross-cutting issues to enable religious leaders to provide accurate information to communities
- Increase the technical and managerial skills of healthcare workers through refresher training for doctors, nurses, and lab technicians

Accomplishments:

- Trained approximately 13,000 pharmacists, shura members, and community-health workers on safe drinking water, oral rehydration salts, and birth spacing to increase the quality of preventative healthcare in the province
- Trained provincial health officers to develop monthly joint monitoring plans to support the delivery of BPHS and EPHS

INFRASTRUCTURE

Goal: Improve infrastructure to create licit economic opportunities, promote freedom of movement, and facilitate delivery of government and social services.

Summary: The infrastructure program for Nangarhar Province focuses on the rehabilitation of roads, power, water, and sanitation facilities while building the capacity of local workers and supporting the provincial economy through the use of locally available materials.

Current Activities:

- Rehabilitate the Darunta Hydroelectric Power Plant to increase access to reliable power supply
- Upgrade provincial roads from Shinwar to Dur Baba and major portions from Azra to Shirzad to increase economic opportunities
- Maintain the Jalalabad-Asmar Road and strengthen the capacity of the provincial Road Maintenance Unit to implement road maintenance through Afghan contractors
- Assist the Jalalabad water utility improve its operating efficiency and cost recovery so that it can operate in a sustainable manner
- Improve health and sanitation by constructing 62 bore wells in Khewa District and building or improving over 500 latrines in the districts of Kuz Konar, Bati Kot, Haska Mina, Deh Bala, and Khewa

Accomplishments:

- Upgraded the 8-km provincial road from Wazir to Khadakhel into an engineered gravel road
- Built 26 new dug wells and rehabilitated 18 existing dug wells in Spinghar District to improve access to potable water
- Constructed or refurbished 165 water and sanitation facilities, two dams, and four reservoirs to increase water supply, and improve the health of people, livestock, and crops



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- Improved the 90 km Jalalabad-Asmar Provincial Road, six district center roads, and three rural roads, to shorten travel time, improve economic opportunities, and provide access to health clinics and educational institutions
- Trained local workers in 17 districts on the construction of cobblestone roads

STABILIZATION

Goal: Improve stability, extend the reach of the Afghan government, and promote stabilization efforts that lay the groundwork for medium- to long-term development activities.

Summary: USAID creates linkages and builds confidence between communities and the local government through small-scale infrastructure, training, and community-development projects.

Current Activities:

- Support community-level labor intensive programs that improve city infrastructure, support community development priorities, and offer temporary employment (wages earned through these public and community works projects enable the urban poor to support themselves and their families)
- Assist war-affected families, including support for an incident in Rodat District where a grenade explosion near a school killed five and injured 68 children
- Provide civics education training for formal and traditional district leaders in Pachir Agam on democracy, elections, the judiciary system, government and the roles of citizens, human rights and women's rights

Accomplishments:

- Funded three new administrative buildings in Jalalabad to ease overcrowding and improve the effectiveness of government
- Funded an industrial park project to help attract investment to Nangarhar province, helping expand economic opportunities
- Strengthened governance through civic education and capacity building training for government officials
- Constructed and rehabilitated three roads to improve transportation
- Celebrated International Women's Day and Women's Civic Education Day by informing women about health, education, and women's rights, and encouraging them to take an active role in their communities
- Administered 92 community stabilization grants valued at \$1.0 million
- Provided training in conflict resolution and women's kitchen gardening
- Provided training and technical assistance to the District Governor's office in Khogyani District
- Funded training of radio journalists and radio programming in Khogyani District
- Assessed Khogyani District's current communications strategy and conducted a training program to improve the public outreach capacity of local Afghan government
- Conducted a vital meeting of 55 key traditional leaders from remote villages in Pachier Agam District to meet with the District Governor and other members of the district government to address the lack of acceptable service provisions and dispute resolution
- Helped 148,800 people through community-level labor intensive programs that improve city infrastructure, support community development priorities, and offer temporary employment
- Helped more than 480 war-affected families through the delivery of small business and kits